



ACA

Stetson University  
MFA of the Americas  
December 2023

### ***Letter from the Interim Director:***

Dear Writers and Creators of the MFAotA:

I am thrilled to present the program guide and schedule for our Winter 2023 residency and to be welcoming you back as a member of our writing community—or to be greeting you for the first time as a new instructor or student.

In the following pages you'll find important information about our upcoming residency at the Atlantic Center for the Arts (the ACA), including general information, bios for our new and returning faculty and guests, a schedule, maps, contact info, housing information, and more.

For those returning, you'll also notice some changes throughout the program—some large and some small. As someone who has gone through a lot of changes this year, including switching jobs and moving countries, I know that change can sometimes feel destabilizing. But change is also—and always—a chance for new opportunities, for growth and connection.

With a new interim director and a new program coordinator in Jen Anders, there was always going to be some new ideas and new approaches, but I wanted to take direction with these new energies from the students and the teachers who already know this program, who make it the remarkable and unique community that it is. For that reason, the first thing I did upon landing in this wonderful new role was to ask current students and faculty about their experiences in the program. I wanted a sense of what we as a community value, what we wish to preserve going forward, as well as where we as a community could do better, what we might like more of, and in what directions we might like to see the program evolve.

With that in mind, I tried to honor two the most pressing requests I heard: to make the program more condensed for those taking time away from work and childcare, and to allow for more free time in the design of the scheduling. I've heard you on both counts and you'll see that represented below, with a shortened residency schedule and a free day in the middle to gather and head to the beach if you so wish, or to retreat and recharge, to write and reflect.

I've also leaned into the enthusiasm that I heard for the afternoon workshops, which represented to many a chance to explore interarts experimentation and to come together in different formulations of community, to work with new instructors and alongside peers whose work you might otherwise not encounter. With that in mind, we've expanded the afternoon workshops into two sessions, representing an exciting batch of established writers and artists who are sure to challenge you to grow and to change in relationship to your own work, with new instructors that include Kristen Arnett, Derrick Austin, and Lydia Conklin.

But in all these changes, we don't want to lose the things that makes us special. And so no program would be complete without Publishing Coordinator Ryan Rivas and the tech goddess Shelby Smotherman, both back in the saddle. And of course, we'll need our tremendous returning faculty, whose commitment to your growth and success remains unwavering: Steven Dunn and Stephanie Sauer in prose; Cyriaco Lopes, Urayoán Noel, and Terri Witek, offering poetry in the expanded field.

Above all, I hope you'll see a program that is exciting, one designed to challenge and support you, combining the people, places and ideas that you value (or will come to value, for those just joining us), alongside a few new tweaks—all with the goal of enriching your experience.

More soon,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B-~B-~". The signature is stylized with a cursive-like flow and a tilde symbol between the two "B"s.

Brendan Bowles  
Interim Director, MFAotA

## **GENERAL INFORMATION AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

Welcome to the Atlantic Center for the Arts. We hope your experience here will be productive, creative, and rewarding!

### **CODES TO ACCESS PROPERTY AND BUILDINGS**

Front Gate Code: **0-4-3-2**

Studio Code: **4-3-2**

### **INTERNET**

Wireless internet is available in all housing units and in the Leeper Studio Complex. The password is **atlantic** (all lowercase)

### **SECURITY**

All residency participants are responsible for the security of all buildings. If you are the last person to leave a building, please lock the door as you leave. Also, please turn off all lights, appliances, computers, and electronics. Everyone in the residency will know the building codes so lock the doors, even if you plan to be back in a few minutes.

### **STUDIOS SPACES AND SHARED RESOURCES**

Please keep shared spaces organized and available for the use of others. If you are finished using an ACA computer, please save your documents and close the programs that you were using so the next person can start working without worry. Please don't take mice and keyboards from shared computers, we have additional ones that you can borrow.

### **EQUIPMENT**

Due to the ever-changing needs of artists, we **STRONGLY** encourage artists to bring items or equipment that is specialized to their practice.

**ALSO**, we **STRONGLY** encourage artists to bring their own technology, especially technology that is required for production or directly necessary for their practice.

ACA has many items and pieces of equipment available for artists to use during their residency. Many of the items listed are housed in their various studio locations. Some items/equipment are kept under lock and key in the Main Office, or in a studio locked closet. If you require an item or piece of equipment, please contact tech goddess Shelby Smotherman for assistance.

We ask that all artists return equipment to its rightful home after use.



For an updated list of studio equipment, see here:

[https://atlanticcenter.sharepoint.com/:x:/g/ACA/EXeHLbfBWNNr\\_EZ6RTRcvMB6vDXmFeSkZ89auyly7QHYQ?time=CkGnO4\\_g20g](https://atlanticcenter.sharepoint.com/:x:/g/ACA/EXeHLbfBWNNr_EZ6RTRcvMB6vDXmFeSkZ89auyly7QHYQ?time=CkGnO4_g20g)

## CELLPHONES

Please be aware that cell phone signal (coverage) is very spotty on ACA property. Some carriers have better connections than others. Other solutions for making calls while on our property:

- Make sure the settings on your phone are set to WI-FI calling
- Use WhatsUp Application by downloading from Apple's App Store or Google Play

## MAIL & SHIPPING

Mail is placed on the table at the entrance to the Whatmore Commons around lunchtime (Mon-Sat). It is each artist's responsibility to check for mail. There is an outgoing mailbox in the office copy room. We can help you answer questions about shipping items in the office. For shipping, we prefer UPS, as we have had trouble with FedEx pickups. You are responsible for packing your boxes and purchasing shipping (UPS recommended).

## SMOKING

Smoking indoors is prohibited at Atlantic Center for the Arts. Please smoke outdoors and away from the entrances to ACA's buildings. Please dispose of your cigarette butts in the concrete containers located around the campus and not in the flammable brush.

## PETS

No pets are allowed at ACA or in housing. Please contact us if you have a service animal or other questions about this policy.

## OUTDOOR COOKING / FIRES

Cooking outdoors or any type of fire is prohibited.

## BICYCLES

There are approximately 8 bicycles for you to use that are normally located in the back of the Sculpture Studio. The lock code is **1414**. Please use these for trips outside of ACA's campus and not to go on the boardwalks or from building to building.

## RECYCLING & TRASH

ACA recycles all clean paper, cardboard (not pizza boxes), glass, plastic, and metal containers. Please place all recyclables in the blue containers in the studios or in your room. The recycling dumpster is located across from unit 28 and is outside of the fenced area. The non-recyclable garbage dumpster is located inside the fenced area.

## PABST VISITOR CENTER AND GALLERY (& ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES) OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Friday - 9AM - 5PM Saturday 10AM to 2PM Closed Sunday

## PHOTOCOPIES

ACA has a copy machine in the Administration Building. Please see "Office Hours" for availability.

## WHATMORE COMMONS (DINING HALL)

As a communal space, the kitchen and facility should be treated with appropriate care and cleanliness. The Commons is equipped with commercial appliances. No utensils or glasses should be removed from the facility.

## ARTIST HOUSING

### ACCOMMODATIONS

ACA Artist Housing consists of 24 individual units and 4 accessible suites divided into two wings. Each individual unit is equipped with a full-size bed, work desk, chair, radio alarm clock, refrigerator and private bathroom with shower. Bed and bath linens are also provided. If you have a favorite pillow, you might want to bring that. The four accessible units also include a pull-out sofa for a caretaker as well as other features for those with disabilities. The rooms do not have a telephone or TV, but wifi access is available. Password: **atlantic** (all lowercase)

No guests are permitted in the housing units.

Housekeeping services are not provided during the Residency. Housekeeping items such as toilet paper, soap, and basic cleaning supplies can be found in the laundry room cabinet.

Cooking is not allowed in the housing units; however, the Whatmore Commons (detailed above) is accessible 24/7.

## LAUNDRY

Laundry facilities (a washer and dryer) are located next to Unit 15 at the Housing facility. Each machine requires four quarters for each use. We can make change in the main office during business hours. ACA also sells single load detergent packets that cost \$0.50 each.

## CHECKOUT PROCEDURES

***CHECK-OUT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17 BY 12:00 NOON***

## HOUSING

Remove all items from the refrigerator. You can bring sealed or unexpired food items to the commons that other artists can use.

Discard all garbage and recyclables in the appropriate dumpsters (located opposite unit 28, dumpster outside fence is for recycling, dumpster inside of fence is for non-recycling garbage).

Please put the air conditioner on a cool setting at 78 degrees or number 3.

Place your unit key on the counter.

Please turn off all lights.

Lock all windows and lock the door upon final exit.

## STUDIO SPACES

Discard all garbage and recyclables in the appropriate dumpsters. The recycling dumpster is located across from unit 28 and is outside of the fenced area. The dumpster located inside the fence is for non-recycling garbage.

All artwork is the associate's responsibility. All preparation for shipping and all arrangements for shipping must be made prior to your departure.

ACA is not liable for any items left in the studios or digital files left on ACA computers.

Return any other items you may have moved or borrowed to their original location.

## ***Safety Measures for the 2023 Residency at the ACA***

On behalf of the students and faculty of the Stetson MFA program, the following protocols will be set in place at the upcoming Winter residency.

This nine-day residency will include approximately 30 participants, including approximately 17 MFA students, 5 faculty members, 4 staff members, and 5 guests who will be arriving from across the country and a few international locations.

Some local community members will be invited to attend evening events.

Most residency attendees will be able to remain on the ACA campus for the duration of the residency, but others may commute from home or off-site hotels. The residency events will include group workshops, readings, meals, and free time to socialize.

The MFAotA will abide by the COVID safety measures set in place by the ACA and Stetson University. This document has been created in collaboration with the ACA. We propose the following measures to ensure compliance with ACA and university policies:

- Stetson University follows the current Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines for COVID-19. Therefore, this transfers decisions to personal responsibility for our faculty, staff and students to monitor for symptom development and self-isolate when needed, as per the CDC's COVID-19 Isolation Protocol.
- Students will be responsible for notifying their professors, the Program Director, and any close contacts of their isolation status. Employees will be responsible for notifying their supervisors and close contacts.
- If you test positive for COVID-19, stay home for at least 5 days and isolate from others in your home. You are likely most infectious during these first 5 days. Use the [CDC's Isolation and Exposure calculator](#) to assess your dates and for additional information on when to end isolation.
  - Please note: students who test positive are responsible for developing and executing their own isolation lodging and contingency plan. We suggest you do this ahead of arrival as the accommodations at the ACA may not be available past the date of Stetson's original booking. Any costs associated with isolation is the responsibility of the student, staff member or instructor.
  - We continue to support mask wearing for those who prefer it and for those who are advised to wear one based on their immunocompromised status, but universal mask wearing is not required.
  - The MFAotA strongly suggests that all MFA participants be fully vaccinated and encourages the latest booster at least two weeks ahead of arrival.



For any life-threatening medical emergencies, participants should immediately dial 911.

For non-life-threatening medical emergencies:

- ACA staff can provide assistance with calling clinics or doctor's offices and help to arrange the use of the ACA van or call a taxi service, during office hours: M-F 9am-5pm and Saturday 10am-2pm. If a participant needs transportation outside of office hours or on the weekends, they should request a Uber, Lyft or a taxi.
- All participants please inform MFA faculty/staff who will then proceed to inform ACA staff of any COVID-19 related health situations and medical emergencies that take place on campus.

IN CASE OF NON-LIFE THREATENING EMERGENCY (personal, medical, and maintenance) CONTACT:

- Jen Anders (Stetson Staff) (901) 679-6989
- Brendan Bowles (Stetson MFA Director) (647) 403-3453
- Ryan Rivas (Stetson Staff) (786) 547-0430
- Jim Haas (ACA Staff) After office hours: after 5pm and weekends (386) 451-6908 (call or text)

Please note: If your phone number requires international dialing, we will receive your text message, but may be unable to respond.

ACA Main Office

During Hours (M-F 9am-5pm, Sat 10am-2pm)

For general questions regarding the residency, you can also send a message to the MFA What's App group. All students, faculty, and staff are part of the group.

EMERGENCY NUMBERS (Medical, Fire, or Police) 911

MEDICAL EMERGENCIES: For medical emergencies, dial 911. An ambulance can be at the ACA within 10 minutes. You will be taken to one of the 2 hospitals in the New Smyrna Beach area. Please text or call ACA Emergency number (386-451-9608) to let us know about the situation as soon as you are able.

Advent Health New Smyrna Beach, (386) 424-5000 401 // Palmetto St., New Smyrna Beach, FL 32168

Halifax Health Medical Center, (386) 425-4000 // 303 N. Clyde Morris Blvd., Daytona Beach, FL 32114

For any medical issues that require immediate attention but are non-emergency, we highly recommend that you go to local urgent care or to the hospital. For transport, if

during office hours, we will be able to take you if staff is available. If staff is unavailable or if it is after hours, we highly recommend requesting a Lyft, Uber, or taxi. You will need to meet them outside the ACA gate as they will not know the code.

**NON-EMERGENCY NUMBERS:**

- Poison Control, 1-800-222-1222
- New Smyrna Police Department, (386) 424-2000  
246 Industrial Park Ave., New Smyrna Beach, FL 32168
- New Smyrna Fire Department, (386) 402-8125  
238 Industrial Park Ave., New Smyrna Beach, FL 32168
- Walk-In Clinics:
- Urgent Care Clinic, (386) 663-3061  
1860 Renzulli Road, New Smyrna Beach, 32168  
Hours M-F, 8AM- 6PM, Sat. and Sun. 9PM-3PM
- Prime Care Urgent Care, (386) 767-2402  
1327 Saxon Dr, New Smyrna Beach, FL, 32169  
Hours M-F, 8AM-7PM, Sat. and Sun. 9AM-3PM
- Halifax Health Medical Center of Port Orange, (386) 425-4700  
1041 Dunlawton Ave., Port Orange, FL, 32127  
Open 24 hrs.

## **GUEST ARTISTS**

### **KRISTEN ARNETT**



Kristen Arnett is the queer author of *With Teeth* (Riverhead Books, 2021) which was a finalist for the Lambda Literary Award in fiction and the New York Times bestselling debut novel *Mostly Dead Things* (Tin House, 2019) which was also a finalist for the Lambda Literary Award in fiction and was shortlisted for the VCU Cabell First Novelist Award. She was awarded a Shearing Fellowship at Black Mountain Institute, has held residencies at Ragdale Foundation, Vermont Studio Center, the Millay Colony, and the Key West Literary Seminar, and was longlisted for the Joyce Carol Oates Prize. Her work has appeared at *The New York Times*, *TIME*, *Oprah Magazine*, *Guernica*, *PBS Newshour*, *The Guardian*, and elsewhere. Her next novel, *CLOWN*, will be published by Riverhead Books, followed by the publication of an untitled collection of short stories. She has a Masters in Library and Information Science and lives in Orlando, Florida.

#### ENCOUNTERS LIST:

[Author site](#)

Text work, [The Year in Taxidermy](#)

Text work, [Pirates](#)

Text work, [Birds Surrendered and Rehomed](#)

Book, [Mostly Dead Things](#)

Book, [With Teeth](#)

## DERRICK AUSTIN



Derrick Austin is the author of *Tenderness* (BOA Editions, 2021), winner of the 2020 Isabella Gardner Poetry Award, and *Trouble the Water* (BOA Editions, 2016). His first chapbook, *Black Sand*, was published by Foundlings Press in 2022. His debut collection was honored as a finalist for the Kate Tufts Discovery Award, Thom Gunn Award for Gay Poetry, Lambda Literary Award for Gay Poetry, and the Norma Faber First Book Award. *Tenderness* was a finalist for a Golden Poppy Award, Lambda Literary Award for Gay Poetry, and a Northern California Book Award. His honors include fellowships from Cave Canem, the Wisconsin Institute of Creative Writing, and Stanford University. Most recently, he served as a 2022-2023 Amy Lowell Poetry Traveling Scholar.

### ENCOUNTERS LIST:

[Author Site](#)

Book: [Tenderness](#)

Book: [Tenderness](#)

Book: [Black Sand](#)

## LYDIA CONKLIN



Lydia Conklin has received a Stegner Fellowship, four Pushcart Prizes, a Rona Jaffe Foundation Writer's Award, a Creative Writing Fulbright in Poland, a grant from the Elizabeth George Foundation, work-study and tuition scholarships from Bread Loaf, and fellowships from MacDowell, Yaddo, Emory University, Hedgebrook, Djerassi, the James Merrill House, Lighthouse Works, and elsewhere. Their fiction has appeared in *The Paris Review*, *One Story*, *McSweeney's*, *American Short Fiction*, and *VQR*. They have drawn cartoons for *The New Yorker* and *Narrative Magazine*, and graphic fiction for *The Believer*, *Lenny Letter*, and the Steppenwolf Theater in Chicago. They've served as the Helen Zell Visiting Professor at the University of Michigan and are currently an Assistant Professor of Fiction at Vanderbilt University. Their story collection, *Rainbow Rainbow*, was longlisted for the PEN/Robert W. Bingham Award and The Story Prize. Their novel, *Songs of No Provenance*, is forthcoming in 2025 from Catapult in the US and Chatto in the UK.

### ENCOUNTERS LIST:

[Author Site](#)

Book, [Rainbow Rainbow](#)

Comics, [Lesbian Cattle Dogs](#)

Comics, [Animals in a Bad Situation](#)

## CORE FACULTY

### TERRI WITEK



Terri Witek's 8 books of poetry include her newest collection, *Something's Missing in This Museum* (2023) ; a new chapbook, *Down Water Street* is forthcoming in 2024 from aboveground press. Her work has been included in many anthologies, including 2 from 2021: *JUDITH: Women Making Visual Poetry* (Timglasnet) and *WAAVe (Women Asemic Artist and Visual Poets)* Witek's art/text mixes are often featured in collaboration: she teaches Poetry in the Expanded Field in Stetson University's low-residency MFA of the Americas with Brazilian visual artist Cyriaco Lopes; they also lead The Fernando Pessoa Game at the Disquiet International Literary Program each summer in Lisbon. Their collaborative work has been represented at ARCO in Madrid and in Seoul, Chania (Crete), Miami, New York, Philadelphia, Lisbon, and Valencia, Spain. [terriwitek.com](http://terriwitek.com)

#### ENCOUNTERS LIST:

[Author Site](#)

Book, [The Rattle Egg](#)

Book, [The Rape Kit \(Slope Editions Prize\)](#)

Book, [Something's Missing in This Museum](#)

Anthology, [JUDITH: Women Making Visual Poetry \(Timglasnet\)](#)

Anthology, [WAAVe \(Women Asemic Artist and Visual Poets\)](#)

Publication, [BEYOND THE ILLEGIBLE ON BOUNDARY AVE](#)

Exhibit, [The Severe Ones and Gods of Remainder \(The Liminal Gallery, ARCO 2023 - Madrid\)](#) [Special jury mention: El aire comienza a tomar las formas lentas del mármol](#)



## CYRIACO LOPES



Brazilian-American artist Cyriaco Lopes has exhibited at the Museum of Modern Art in Rio de Janeiro, the Museum of Art of São Paulo (MASP), El Museo del Barrio in NYC, the Centre Wallonie Bruxelles in Paris, Casa Degli Artisti in Milan, among other international venues. In 2022 he had a solo exhibition at Satchel Projects in Chelsea, NYC. His work has been selected and curated in exhibitions by critics such as Yasufumi Nakamori, Paulo Herkenhoff and Adriano Pedrosa, as well as by artists such as Lygia Pape, Janine Antoni, Luciano Fabro, and Ryan Trecartin. He is the winner of the NYC World Studio Foundation Award, the Contemporary Art Museum Saint Louis Project Award, and the São Paulo Phillips Prize of trip to Europe.

His performances with poet Terri Witek have been seen at the Centro Nacional de Cultura in Lisbon, Portugal, the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts in Philadelphia, the Salford Museum, in Manchester, England, the Atlantic Center for the Arts, FL, the Centre del Carme Cultura Contemporanea, in Valencia, Spain, and Oi Futuro Center for Art & Technology, in Rio, Brazil. Their collaboration was featured at the 2023 ARCO Madrid, where their gallery, The Liminal, won one of the two special mentions by the jury.

The artist holds two M.F.A.s: one in Imaging and Digital Arts, UMBC, Baltimore, and the other in Visual Languages, UFRJ, Rio de Janeiro. He attended artist's residencies such as Skowhegan, the London Project, MassMoca, and the MacDowell Colony (where Lopes was a 2019 Marian O. Naumburg Photography fellow).

ENCOUNTERS LIST:

[Author Site](#)

## STEPHANIE SAUER



Stephanie Sauer writes books, makes books, and publishes the books of others. She is the author of *Almonds Are Members of the Peach Family* (Noemi Press) and *The Accidental Archives of the Royal Chicano Air Force* (University of Texas Press), and her shorter works have appeared in *Drunken Boat*, *Pleiades*, *Asymptote*, *Gulf Coast*, *Grain*, and *Lavender Review*. She has earned fellowships from Yaddo, Sacatar, and Kimmel Harding Nelson Center for the Arts, as well as a Barbara Deming Memorial Award for Nonfiction. She lives between California and Brasília, where she manages Lólmén Publications for the Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians and co-directs Praça, Brazil's first nationwide platform for book artists and small press publishers.

### ENCOUNTERS LIST:

[Author Site](#)

Essay, ["Writing with My Hands"](#) *So to Speak*

Book, [Almonds are Member of the Peach Family](#)

Book, [The Accidental Archives of the Royal Chicano Air Force.](#)

[A Bolha Press](#) and [Praça](#)

## URAYOÁN NOEL



Urayoán Noel is a Puerto Rican poet, scholar, translator, creative-nonfiction writer, and performer, and a 2022-2023 Letras Boricuas poetry fellow. His most recent books are the poetry collection *Transversal* (University of Arizona Press, 2021), which was named a Book of the Year by the New York Public Library and longlisted for the PEN Open Award, and, as translator, *adjacent islands/islas adyacentes* (Ugly Duckling Presse/DoubleCross Press/La Impresora, 2022), which collects two “camping books” by Puerto Rican poet and book artist Nicole Cecilia Delgado. A finalist for the National Translation Award, Noel has received the LASA Latino Studies Book Prize and an MLA Honorable Mention for his critical study *In Visible Movement: Nuyorican Poetry from the Sixties to Slam* (University of Iowa Press, 2014). His work has appeared in *Poetry* and the *New York Times*, and he has performed at Poesiefestival Berlin, Barcelona Poesia, and the Toronto Biennial of Art.

### ENCOUNTERS LIST:

[Author Site](#)

Book, [Transversal](#)

Book, [Buzzing Hemisphere / Rumor Hemisférico](#)

Book, [Los Días Porosos](#)

Criticism, [In Visible Movement](#)

Triptych 1<sup>st</sup> translation, [Tróptico](#); 2<sup>nd</sup> translation, [Tróptico](#)

## STEVEN DUNN



Steven Dunn, a.k.a Pot Hole (cuz he's deep in these streets) is the recipient of a 2021 Whiting Award, and the author of three novels: *Potted Meat* (2016), *water & power* (2018), and *Tannery Bay* (2024), which is co-written with Katie Jean Shinkle. *Potted Meat* was a finalist for the Colorado Book Award, and shortlisted for *Granta Magazine's* Best of Young American Novelists, and adapted to a short film by Foothills Productions. *The Usual Route* has played at L.A. International Film Festival, Houston International Film Festival, and others. He was born and raised in West Virginia.

### ENCOUNTERS LIST:

[Author Site](#)

Video, [The secret to a happier life? Look for moments of softness](#)

Book, [Tannery Bay \(written with Katie Jean Shinkle\)](#)

Book, [water & power](#)

Book, [Potted Meat](#)

## **STAFF**



New Jersey native, **Jen Anders** is a mixed-media sculptor and a registered yoga teacher with over 600 hours of certification from Yoga Alliance. She attended Memphis College of Art where she graduated Summa Cum Laude. After working for several nonprofit arts organizations from 2003 -2007, she met a New York based arts philanthropist who introduced her to meditation and yoga, which changed her life. Jen began teaching yoga in 2010 and continues to teach to this day. After 25 years, Jen's steadfast commitment to creating connections either through art, yoga or philanthropy has been her passion and continues to be her life's work.



**Brendan Bowles** is a writer from Toronto, Ontario. His work has been published and produced for stage and radio and has won some of the largest short story awards in Canada. He was a Wallace Stegner Fellow at Stanford University and a Fiction Fellow at the Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown, Massachusetts. He is currently the Interim Director of Stetson University's MFA of the Americas.





**Ryan Rivas** is the author of *Nextdoor in Colonialtown* (Autofocus, 2022) and *Lizard People* (ThirtyWest, 2023). He is the Publisher of Burrow Press, and the Coordinator of MFA Publishing at Stetson University's MFA of the Americas creative writing program. A Macondo Writers Workshop fellow, his work has appeared in *The Believer*, *The Rumpus*, *Literary Hub*, *Best American Nonrequired Reading 2012*, and elsewhere.



**Shelby Smotherman** is a writer, artist, and theatrical technician working in the Tampa Bay Area. Most often, she works with paint and lighting and uses language from her technical background to fill her poetry, as well as taking heavy influence from pop culture.



## ***December 2023 Residency at the Atlantic Center for the Arts***

### ***Schedule***

NOTE: Student attendance is required at all events unless otherwise noted.

NOTE: all program-wide events take place in the Blackbox Theater unless otherwise noted.

NOTE: all meals, for those who have opted for meal plans, will be served in the Commons. Welcome and closing dinners are open to all and will be served in the Commons.

#### **SATURDAY, DEC 9, DAY 1: ARRIVAL**

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<b>1-4:30pm</b>	Arrival and check in at the Atlantic Center for the Arts
<b>4:45pm</b>	Tour of campus with Dustin Huntington, Events Coordinator (optional)
<b>6:30pm</b>	Welcome Dinner for all students, faculty and guests. Reception to follow.

## SUNDAY, DEC 10, DAY 2

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<b>8-9:30am</b>	Breakfast
<b><i>Morning</i></b>	Individual Student Conferences with Core Faculty
<b>*10am</b>	<b><u>For graduating students only:</u></b> tech run-through with Shelby
<b>12:30pm</b>	Lunch
<b>2-3:30pm</b>	Exploratory Workshops <i>Session 1 Exploratory Workshops will meet in the following:</i> <i>Kristen Arnett: Dance Studio</i> <i>Brendan Bowles: Painting Studio</i>
<b>5:30-6:30pm</b>	Dinner
<b>Pre/post-reading</b>	Zeppelin Books Pop-Up Store <i>Meet Alex and Andrea of Zeppelin Books to shop books by many of our writers</i>
<b>7-8pm</b>	Graduating Student Performance and Q&A <i>Hannah Walls is a Midwest-raised aspiring everything and lover of storytelling. She is a prose writer who contemplates themes such as identity, belonging, and womanhood in her work, and finds inspiration in the thoughts that keep her from falling asleep at night. She currently lives in Florida and is working on her first novel.</i>  <i>Tya Saunders is a writer from the Tampa Bay Area. She enjoys writing poetry and prose. Her work has been published in her university's literary magazine and she is currently working on her debut novel, "Beatrix is Dead!"</i>

### MONDAY, DEC 11, DAY 3

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- 8-9:30am** Breakfast
- 10am-12:30pm** Core Faculty Workshops  
*Faculty workshops will meet in the following locations:*  
Steven Dunn: Writing Studio  
Cyriaco Lopes & Terri Witek: Library  
Urayoán Noel: Music Studio  
Stephanie Sauer: Field House
- 12:30pm** Lunch
- 2-3:30pm** Exploratory Workshops  
*Session 1 Exploratory Workshops continued*
- 5:30-6:30pm** Dinner
- 7-8:15pm:** Evening Performance  
*Featuring Kristen Arnett, Urayoán Noel, and Ryan Rivas*

### TUESDAY, DEC 12, DAY 4

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- 8-9:30am** Breakfast
- 10am-12:30pm** Core Faculty Workshop
- 12:30pm\*** Burrow Press Pop-up Lunch (optional)  
*Come support our in-house publisher, Burrow Press*
- 2-3:30pm** Exploratory Workshops  
*Session 1 final workshop*
- 5:30-6:30pm** Dinner
- 7-8:15pm:** Evening Performance  
*Featuring Cyriaco Lopes and Terri Witek*
- 8:30pm** Submission party (optional)  
*Join us in the field house for an evening submission party*

### WEDNESDAY, DEC 13, DAY 5

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<b>8-9:30am</b>	Breakfast
<b>10am-12:30pm</b>	Core Faculty Workshop
<b>12:30pm</b>	Lunch
<b>2-5:30pm</b>	Free afternoon
<b>5:30-6:30pm</b>	Dinner
<b>To follow</b>	Free evening

### THURSDAY, DEC 14, DAY 6

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<b>8-9:30am</b>	Breakfast
<b>10am-12:30pm</b>	Core Faculty Workshop
<b>12:30pm</b>	Lunch
<b>2-3:30pm</b>	Exploratory Workshop: <i>Session 2 Exploratory Workshops will meet in the following:</i> <i>Derrick Austin: Dance Studio</i> <i>Lydia Conklin: Painting Studio</i>
<b>5:30-6:30pm</b>	Dinner
<b>Pre/post-reading</b>	Zeppelin Books Pop-Up Store <i>Meet Alex and Andrea of Zeppelin Books to shop books by many of our writers</i>
<b>7-8:15pm</b>	Evening Performance <i>Featuring Steven Dunn, Lydia Conklin, and Shelby Smotherman</i>

## FRIDAY, DEC 15, DAY 7

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**8-9:30am** Breakfast

**10am-12:30pm** Core Faculty Workshop

**12:30pm** Lunch

**2-3:30pm** Exploratory Workshop  
*Session 2 continued*

**4:30pm** The Writing Life: A Conversation with Tyler Gillespie  
*Moderated by Ryan Rivas*  
*In the Black Box theatre*

*Join us for a conversation with real life Florida man, Tyler Gillespie, about the writing life, the publishing world, working in multiple genres, his recent foray into art prints, and the importance of community building.*

*Tyler Gillespie is an award-winning educator and writer whose work has appeared in the New Yorker, Rolling Stone, GQ, The Guardian, The Washington Post, Playboy, and elsewhere. He's the author of the nonfiction collection The Thing about Florida: Exploring a Misunderstood State (University Press of Florida) and two poetry collections Florida Man: Poems and the nature machine! (Autofocus).*

**5:30-6:30pm** Dinner

**7-8:15pm** Evening Performance  
*Featuring Derrick Austin, Brendan Bowles,  
and Stephanie Sauer*

## SATURDAY, DEC 16, DAY 8

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8-9:30am	Breakfast
10am-11:30am	Exploratory Workshop <i>Session 2 final class</i> <b><u>Note: no core faculty workshops today</u></b>
12:30pm	Lunch
2-3:30pm	Tech run through with Shelby ahead of student performances
5:30-6:30pm	Dinner
7-8:30pm	Student Performances
To follow	Closing Reception in Director's Cabin (optional)

## SUNDAY, DEC 17: Departure

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8-9:30am	Breakfast
by noon	Goodbyes and check out



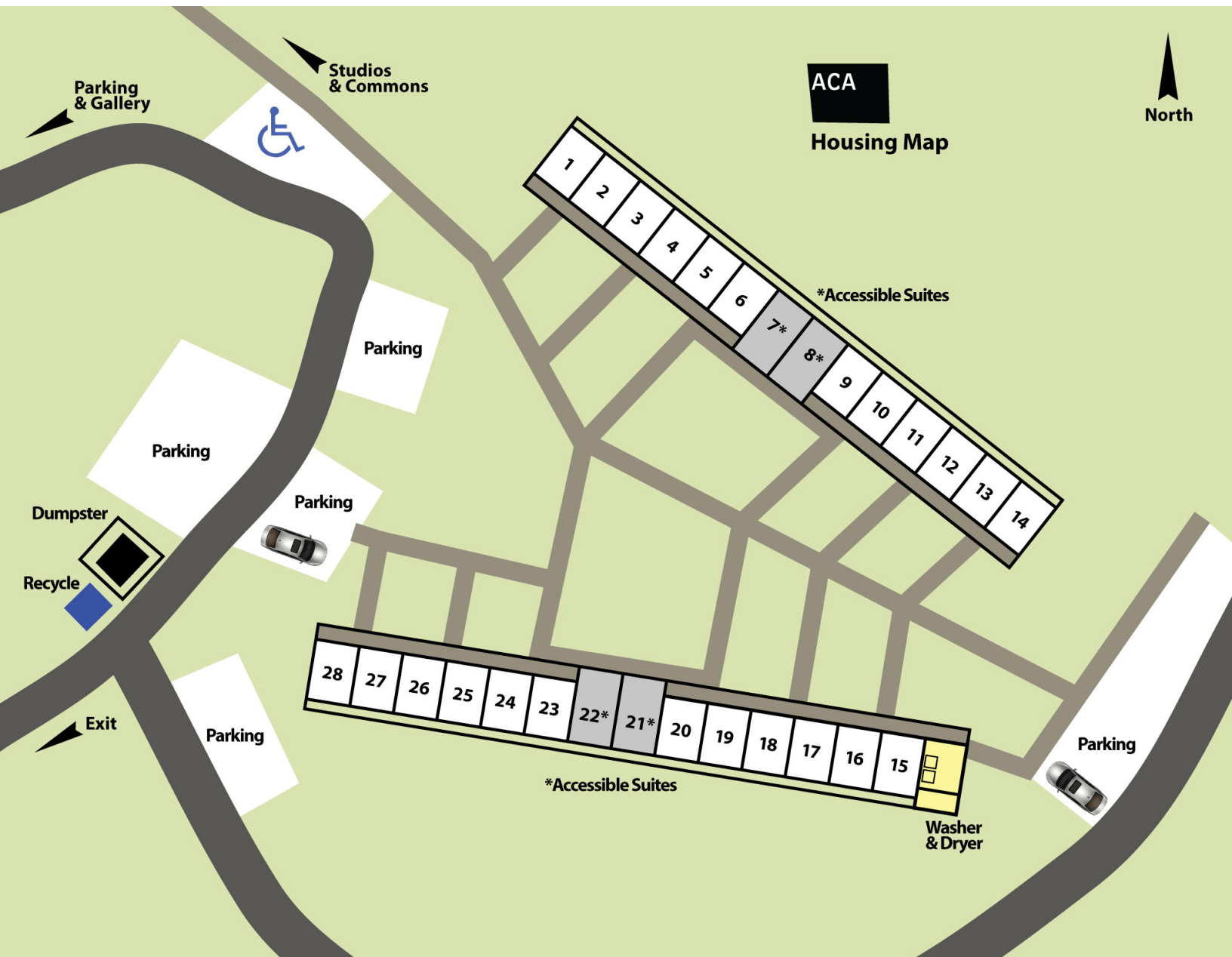
## ***Housing: Room Assignments***

***All rooms are non-smoking***

EAGLES' WING	
UNIT 1	Alex Shimalla
UNIT 2	Arkee Brown
UNIT 3	Bre'Anna Bivens
UNIT 4	Allison Miehl
UNIT 5	Shy Parris
UNIT 6	Ella Dispasquale
UNIT 7	Zöe Poulette
UNIT 8	Marty McIntosh
UNIT 9	Blaze Carter
UNIT 10	
UNIT 11	Ryan Rivas (staff)
UNIT 12	Tyler Gillespie (guest)
UNIT 13	Alex & Andrea (Zeppelin Books)
UNIT 14	Lactation Room

PATRONS' WING	
UNIT 15	Jen Anders (staff)
UNIT 16	
UNIT 17	Shelby Smotherman (staff)
UNIT 18	
UNIT 19	Steven Dunn (faculty)
UNIT 20	
UNIT 21	Urayoán Noel (faculty)
UNIT 22	
UNIT 23	Stephanie Sauer (faculty)
UNIT 24	
UNIT 25	
UNIT 26	Derrick Austin (guest)
UNIT 27	Kristen Arnett (guest)
UNIT 28	Lydia Conklin (guest)

COTTAGE 1	Brendan Bowles (staff)
COTTAGE 2	Terri Witek (faculty)
COTTAGE 3	Cyriaco Lopes (faculty)





**ACA**

- a Pabst **Visitor Center & Gallery**
- b Bell **Administration Building**
- c Urban **Ampitheater**
- d Wilkinson **Library**
- e Whatmore **Commons**
- f Hubbard **Music Studio**
- g Thompson **Fieldhouse**
- h Pugh **Sculpture Studio**

- i Everbach **Painting Studio**
- j Roberson **Dance Studio**
- k **Writer's Studio**
- l Harris **Theater**
- m **Associate Housing**
- n **Master Artist Cottages**
- o **Community Artist-in-Residence Studio**

**Hours:** Mon-Fri 10AM-4PM  
 Sat 10AM-2PM  
 Sun & holidays closed

**ATLANTIC CENTER FOR THE ARTS**  
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